stone theatrical building. Several members of the association spent more than three weeks in Lake Creek Canyon hauling rock and logs for construction of the building. Elisha Averett, association president, along with James and John Duke, and Jim Jordan, spearheaded the work. The crews soon had two walls of the 36 by 60 foot building standing. The structure was located at what today is First East and Third North. When the two walls had been erected, some of the townspeople, described in John Crook's records as "old fogies" wondered if it wouldn't be out of order to erect a permanent place of amusement before the community had more than just a log church building.

The leaders of the dramatic association bowed to the wishes of Church leadership and continued their dramatic efforts in the available facilities. Even though they were delayed in their efforts to build a separate theatre building, the dramatic association decided to put their talents to buying scenery and fixtures. Salt Lake City and Provo were the best sources, and so they began to stage plays and other entertainments to raise funds to make purchases in these two cities. Most admissions to the performances were paid in oats, wheat or lumber, and this is precisely what the association used to purchase scenery, along with some lumber that had been acquired to build the theatre.

From Henry Bowering and the Cluff Brothers of Provo the association purchased for some $350 in cash and merchandise six scenes that could be made into twelve separate stage settings. The scenes were about eight by twelve feet in size and included parlor and kitchen, hovel and cottage, forest and garden, ocean and mountain, dock harbor with bridge and small forest and set cottage.

Some of the plays produced by the association in these early years included "The Charcoal Burner," "Damon and Pythias," "The Mistletoe Bough," "Luke, the Laborer," "The Rose of Ettrick Vale," "Slasher and Crasher" and "The Limerick Boy." Some of the productions were staged in school houses as they were constructed.

Performers in these early plays usually portrayed their roles for pure enjoyment. However, some productions netted pay for the actors. Those who played light roles might receive 35 cents for a night's efforts, while those playing a leading or a particularly heavy role received as much as $4 for an evening. Many charitable causes were supported by dramatic productions. Missionaries called to labor for the Church usually had a play produced in their honor with the funds helping to support them as they traveled to their field of labor.

The enthusiastic performers needed no newspapers, radios or television to advertise their productions. On performance day part of the male cast would dress as wild Indians and the other half would don stove-pipe hats and cut-away coats. The Indians would then race through town followed in hot pursuit by the rest of the cast in sleighs or

Jim Jordan

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white top wagons firing guns and waving a large banner "Theatre Tonight." Needless to say, the stunts usually drew a full house.

By 1873 the community badly needed the theatre building that had been started in 1862, and so efforts began anew to complete the building. However, a more central location was felt desirable, and so a site was secured near 145 North Main. The two stone walls that had previously been built were torn down and the materials used in the foundation of the new building. Work was finished in time for the winter season, and proceeds from five plays produced early in 1874 helped to defray costs of the building and some new scenery. The new building became known as the Heber Social Hall, and later was called the Old Hall.

Directing the new theatrical work in the Social Hall was a reorganized committee consisting of James Duke, president; John Crook, vice president; Charles N. Carroll, secretary; William H. Walker, musical director and Patrick Carroll, stage carpenter.

On January 13, 1874, the group produced "The Charcoal Burner," and "Bombastus Furico." January 27 the fare included "The Mistletoe Bough," and "Deaf as a Post." Produced on February 10 were "A Roland for an Oliver," and "The Toodles." Finally on March 10 they staged "The Rent Day," and "The Omnibus."

Some of the performers in these productions included James and John Duke, Charles N., Willard and Lottie Carroll, Sarah Murdoch, John Jordan, Thomas Hicken Jr., Joseph Cluff, William and Robert Lindsay, Annie R. Duke, Elizabeth Moulton Hicken, Emma Carlile, Alexander Fortie, John Galligher and Bessie Jordan.

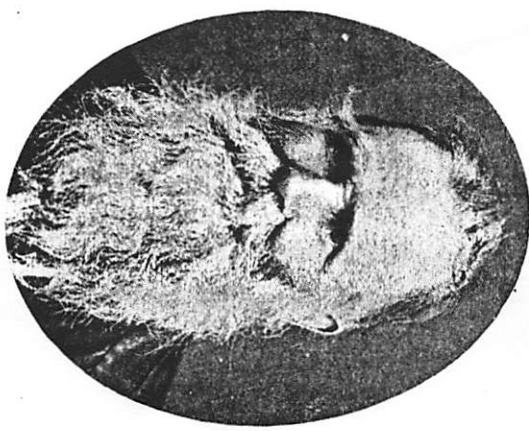
Dramatic efforts in Heber were spearheaded by the Dramatic Association until October of 1884 when the group was dissolved and a new organization known as the Heber Dramatic Combination was formed. John Crook, Ira N. Jacobs, Alex Fortie, Henry Clegg and John W. Crook were officers of the group, which continued to use the old Social Hall for theatrical performances. A number of traveling companies passed through Heber during these years and made use of the theatre for performances. Fees at first were $6 for use of the hall and scenery, and later this was reduced to $5.

Because Heber audiences had taken advantage of dramatic and cultural events through the years the community became well known for appearances by traveling companies. Agents sought bookings in Heber because they knew the performances would be well received. Some of the more frequently appearing groups included the Courtney Morgan plays, the Moore-Ether Theatrical Company, the Great La Reno and the Ellison-White Chautauqua group who included Heber on their international circuit for many years.

One of the first projects of the officers of the new Combination was to add important new pieces of scenery to the Hall, including several scenes painted by W. C. Morris of Salt Lake City.

Firsts in Wasatch County History:

Date: 1st Settler in what was later name "Jordanelle"

Specific First:	Proof:

JOHN JORDAN
Born Jan. 4, 1812. Came to Utah in 1852. High Priest. Black Hawk and Walker Indian Wars Veteran. Farmer and Stonemason.

R Raymond Green MD
375 E 200 N
Heber City UT 84032